What is claimed is:

1. In a portable computing device, a method of converting audio from a digital representation to an analog representation, comprising:

storing, into a random access memory element, a digital representation of said audio, wherein said storing is performed by way of a first processor;

halting operation of said first processor;

reading said digital representation of said audio from said random access memory element, wherein said reading is performed by way of a second processor; and

converting said digital representation of said audio to analog audio information.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising reading a second digital representation of said audio from an internal storage media prior to said storing action.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising reading a second digital representation of said audio from a peripheral prior to said storing action.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising reading a second digital representation of said audio from a compact disc prior to said storing action.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising reformatting said second digital representation of said audio from said compact disc prior to said storing action.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising reading a second digital representation of said audio from a network to which said portable computing device is interfaced.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said converting action further comprises converting said analog format to a sound.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said first processor is a general-purpose processor.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said second processor is an MP3 processor.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said converting action is performed by said MP3 processor.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising reinitiating operation of said first processor in order to repeat said storing action.

12. The method of claim 1 further comprising halting operation of a data-storage device consisting of a drive and at least one hard disk.

13. In a portable computing device, a method of converting video from a digital representation to representation which can be viewed by a user, comprising:

storing, into a random access memory element, a digital representation of said video, wherein said storing is performed by way of a first processor;

halting operation of said first processor;

reading said digital representation of said video from said random access memory element, wherein said reading is performed by way of a second processor; and

converting said video to a format which can be viewed by a user.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising reading a second digital representation of said video from a video disc prior to said storing action.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising compressing said second digital representation of said video from said video disc prior to said storing action.

16. The method of claim 13 wherein said first processor is a general-purpose processor.

17. The method of claim 13 wherein said second processor is a second video processor.

18. The method of claim 13 further comprising reinitiating operation of said first processor in order to repeat said storing action.

19. A portable computing device which is capable of transmitting audio while operating in a low power mode, comprising:

a first processor for storing a digital representation of said audio into a random access memory element;

an input to said first processor for receiving a sleep command, said sleep command serving to permit said first processor to enter a low power consumption mode; and

a second processor for reading said representation of said audio from said random access memory element and converting said representation of said audio into analog audio information.

20. The portable computing device of claim 19, further comprising a storage disk which stores said digital representation of said audio on a storage media.

21. The portable computing device of claim 20, wherein said storage media is an optical media.

22. The portable computing device of claim 21, wherein said first processor includes a converter which converts said digital representation of said audio from a first format to a second format prior to storing said digital representation of said audio into said random access memory element.

23. The portable computing device of claim 21 wherein said second format is MP3.

24. The portable computing device of claim 19, wherein said first processor additionally receives a second command which causes said first processor to exit said low power consumption mode.

25. The portable computing device of claim 19 further comprising a network interface for supplying a digital representation of said audio to said genera-purpose processor.

26. The portable computing device of claim 25, wherein said network interface is adapted for use with the Internet.

27. The portable computing device of claim 26, wherein said network interface adapted for use with the Internet makes use of a wireless Internet protocol.

28. The portable computing device of claim 19 further comprising a PCMCIA interface for supplying a digital representation of said audio to said first purpose processor.

29. The portable computing device of claim 19 further comprising a selector for commanding said first purpose processor to store additional digital representations of audio into said random access memory element.

30. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by said machine to perform method steps for directing a portable computer to enter a low-power sleep mode and present audio to a user of said portable computer, said method comprising:

storing, into a random access memory element, a digital representation of said audio, wherein said storing is performed by way of a first processor;

halting operation of said first processor;

reading said digital representation of said audio from said random access memory element, wherein said reading is performed by way of a second processor; and

converting said digital representation of said audio to analog audio.

31. The program storage device of claim 30 wherein said storing action of said method further comprises reformatting said digital representation of said audio prior to said storing action.

33. The program storage device of claim 30 wherein said storing action of said method further comprises reading said digital representation of said audio from a hard disk prior to said storing action.

34. The program storage device of claim 30 wherein said storing action of said method further comprises reading said digital representation of said audio from an optical storage media prior to said storing action.

35. The program storage device of claim 30 wherein said storing action of said method further comprises permitting operations of said portable computer to be influenced by at least one selector which is accessible to a user while a display of said computer has been inactivated.